blacknewsdigest

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Week of July 16, 1990

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JUNE 1990

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Unemployment for blacks showed little change between May and June, according to the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Overall unemployment for blacks remained at 10.4 percent, the same rate reported in April and May. The unemployment rate for the U.S. population as a whole was 5.1 percent, down slightly from May's 5.3 percent.

For black men, the June unemployment rate was 9.4 percent, compared with May's 9.1 percent. Black women had a June unemployment rate of 8.9 percent, down slightly from May's 9.1 percent.

Black teens showed an increase in unemployment, at 31.4 percent compared with May's 29.4 percent. Black teen men had a June unemployment rate of 37.4 percent, up from May's 31.1 percent. Unemployment for black teen women decreased slightly in June, to 25.3 percent from May's 27.6 percent.

Nonfarm payroll employment, as reported by the survey of business establishments, was about unchanged in June, after seasonal adjustment. Private sector employment edged up, however, but job growth in this sector has been generally weak over the past several months. Government employment decreased in June, as jobs ended for some temporary workers who had been hired to conduct the decennial census. Total civilian employment, as measured by the household survey, was unchanged in June.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons totaled 6.4 million in June. There were declines in unemployment among teenagers and new entrants into the labor force. The civilian worker unemployment rate, 5.2 percent, was little different from May's 5.3 percent. Unemployment has changed very little over the past 2 years.

Jobless rates for most individual worker groups--adult men (4.7 percent), adult women (4.5 percent), whites (4.5 percent), and Hispanics (7.1 percent)--held about steady from May to June. The rate for teenagers fell by 1.4 percentage points to 14.1 percent, returning to about the level which prevailed earlier this year. The rate for blacks has been 10.4 percent for the last 3 months, its lowest level in 16 years.

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Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Both civilian employment, 118.4 million, and the employment-population ratio, 63.0 percent, were unchanged over the month, after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, employment has increased by only about 900,000, considerably less than in recent years.

The civilian labor force, 124.8 million, and the labor force participation rate, 66.4 percent, were also little changed over the month, after seasonal adjustment. The labor force has increased by only 740,000

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HOUSEHOLD DATA **HOUSEHOLD DATA**

Table A-3. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	June 1989	May 1990	June 1990	June 1989	Feb. 1990	Mar. 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1990	June 1990
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	159,297	160,271	160,365	159,297	160,007	160,076	160,170	160,271	160,365
Civilian labor force	107,762	107,075	108,528	106,474	107,080	107,081	107,133	107,353	107,273
Participation rate	67.6	66.8	67.7	66.8	66.9	66.9	66.9	67.0	66.9
Employed	102,869	102,350	103,638	101,663	102,117	102,206	102,027	102,362	102,461
Employment-population ratio[2]	64.6	63.9	64.6	63.8	63.8	63.8	63.7	63.9	63.9
Unemployed	4,893	4,724	4,890	4,791	4,962	4,856	5,106	4,991	4,812
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.5
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	55,965	55,902	56,345	55,544	55,815	55,828	55,826	55,919	55,932
Participation rate	79.3	78.3	78.9	78.7	78.4	78.4	78.3	78.3	78.3
Employed	54,035	53,739	54,240	53,437	53,547	53,593	53,425	53,578	53,650
Employment-population ratio[2]	76.5	75.3	75.9	75.7	75.2	75.2	74.9	75.1	75.1
Unemployed	1,950	2,163	2,104	2,107	2,268	2,235	2,400	2,341	2,282
Unemployment rate	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.2	4.1
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	43,847	44,894	44,821	44,076	44,615	44,523	44,740	44,925	45,055
Participation rate	56.9	57.7	57.6	57.2	57.5	57.4	57.6	57.8	57.9
Employed	42,067	43,208	43,076	42,279	42,782	42,765	42,895	43,165	43,292
Employment-population ratio[2]	54.6	55.6	55.4	54.8	55.2	55.1	55.2	55.5	55.6
Unemployed	1,780	1,686	1,745	1,797	1,833	1,758	1,844	1,760	1,763
Unemployment rate	4.1	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.1	3.9	3.9
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	7,931	6,278	7,362	6,854	6,650	6,710	6,566	6,509	6,286
Participation rate	68.6	56.3	66.3	59.3	59.0	59.8	58.8	58.4	56.6
Employed	6,768	5,403	6,322	5,967	5,788	5,847	5,707	5,619	5,519
Employment-population ratio[2]	58.5	48.5	56.9	51.6	51.4	52.1	51.1	50.4	49.7
Unemployed	1,163	875	1,040	887	862	863	861	890	767
Unemployment rate	14.7	13.9	14.1	12.9	13.0	12.9	13.1	13.7	12.2
Men	14.4	14.0	13.8	13.5	12.7	13.0	13.8	14.2	12.9
Women	15.0	13.8	14.4	12.3	13.2	12.7	12.4	13.1	11.4
BLACK									
Civilian noninstitutional population	21,012	21,261	21,289	21,012	21,188	21,211	21,226	21,261	21,289
Civilian labor force	13,751	13,499	13,652	13,569	13,437	13,581	13,570	13,587	13,472
Participation rate	65.4	63.5	64.1	64.6	63.4	64.0	63.9	63.9	63.3
Employed	12,023	12,093	12,118	11,969	12,030	12,148	12,161	12,179	12,064
Employment-population ratio[2]	57.2	56.9	56.9	57.0	56.8	57.3	57.3	57.3	56.7
Unemployed	1,728	1,406	1,534	1,600	1,407	1,433	1,409	1,408	1,407
Unemployment rate	12.6	10.4	11.2	11.8	10.5	10.6	10.4	10.4	10.4
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	6,240	6,255	6,325	6,206	6,172	6,227	6,240	6,241	6,293
Participation rate	74.6	73.7	74.4	74.2	73.3	73.6	73.7	73.5	74.0
Employed	5,653	5,672	5,742	5,613	5,603	5,631	5,651	5,672	5,702
Employment-population ratio[2]	67.6	66.8	67.5	67.1	66.6	66.5	66.8	66.8	67.1
Unemployed	588	584	583	593	569	596	589	569	591
Unemployment rate	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.6	9.2	9.6	9.4	9.1	9.4
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	6,343	6,459	6,320	6,401	6,423	6,456	6,451	6,516	6,377
Participation rate	60.6	60.8	59.4	61.1	60.7	60.9	60.8	61.3	59.9
Employed	5,680	5,874	5,760	5,732	5,821	5,872	5,856	5,921	5,812
Employment-population ratio[2]	54.2	55.3	54.1	54.7	55.0	55.4	55.2	55.7	54.6
Unemployed	663	585	560	669	602	584	594	595	565
Unemployment rate	10.5	9.1	8.9	10.5	9.4	9.0	9.2	9.1	8.9
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	1,168	784	1,006	962	842	898	879	830	802
Participation rate	53.7	36.5	46.9	44.2	38.5	41.7	40.8	38.6	37.4
Employed	690	547	616	624	606	645	652	586	550
Employment-population ratio[2]	31.7	25.5	28.7	28.7	27.7	30.0	30.3	27.3	25.6
Unemployed	478	237	390	338	236	253	227	244	252
Unemployment rate	40.9	30.2	38.8	35.1	28.0	28.2	25.8	29.4	31.4
Men	36.4	32.6	39.8	33.8	28.5	30.0	27.2	31.1	37.4
Women	46.4	27.4	37.7	36.8	27.5	26.2	24.3	27.6	25.3

See footnotes at end of table.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-13. Employment status of the civilian population for eleven large States

(Numbers in thousands)

State and employment status	Not seasonally adjusted[1]			Seasonally adjusted[2]					
	June 1989	May. 1990	June 1990	June 1989	Feb. 1990	Mar. 1990	Apr. 1990	May. 1990	June 1990
California									
Civilian noninstitutional population	21,438	21,877	21,918	21,438	21,756	21,794	21,834	21,877	21,918
Civilian labor force	14,576	14,750	14,853	14,522	14,496	14,613	14,677	14,801	14,801
Employed	13,769	13,964	14,110	13,725	13,784	13,847	13,881	13,998	14,073
Unemployed	807	786	743	797	712	766	796	803	728
Unemployment rate	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.5	4.9	5.2	5.4	5.4	4.9
Florida									
Civilian noninstitutional population	9,981	10,091	10,111	9,881	10,034	10,052	10,071	10,091	10,111
Civilian labor force	6,346	6,302	6,362	6,280	6,369	6,351	6,336	6,262	6,294
Employed	5,959	5,960	5,942	5,905	5,989	6,021	5,972	5,931	5,886
Unemployed	387	342	420	375	380	330	364	351	408
Unemployment rate	6.1	5.4	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.2	5.7	5.6	6.5
Illinois									
Civilian noninstitutional population	8,831	8,867	8,871	8,831	8,857	8,859	8,863	8,867	8,871
Civilian labor force	6,096	5,965	6,059	6,020	6,029	6,001	6,091	5,987	5,986
Employed	5,742	5,640	5,689	5,677	5,674	5,671	5,722	5,670	5,625
Unemployed	354	324	370	343	355	330	369	317	361
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.4	6.1	5.7	5.9	5.5	6.1	5.3	6.0
Massachusetts									
Civilian noninstitutional population	4,618	4,619	4,620	4,618	4,619	4,618	4,619	4,619	4,620
Civilian labor force	3,236	3,190	3,233	3,177	3,203	3,178	3,161	3,203	3,172
Employed	3,109	3,027	3,044	3,052	3,034	3,006	2,988	3,028	2,987
Unemployed	128	163	189	125	169	172	173	175	185
Unemployment rate	3.9	5.1	5.8	3.9	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.8
Michigan									
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,984	6,997	6,999	6,984	6,993	6,994	6,995	6,997	6,999
Civilian labor force	4,601	4,550	4,664	4,566	4,605	4,553	4,511	4,591	4,631
Employed	4,253	4,228	4,315	4,232	4,250	4,226	4,180	4,238	4,294
Unemployed	348	322	349	334	355	327	331	353	337
Unemployment rate	7.6	7.1	7.5	7.3	7.7	7.2	7.3	7.7	7.3
New Jersey									
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,032	6,028	6,028	6,032	6,029	6,028	6,028	6,028	6,028
Civilian labor force	4,013	4,019	4,083	3,964	4,029	4,034	4,002	4,012	4,037
Employed	3,848	3,834	3,892	3,799	3,848	3,844	3,805	3,820	3,845
Unemployed	165	185	191	165	181	190	197	192	192
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.6	4.7	4.2	4.5	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.8
New York									
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,804	13,800	13,801	13,804	13,801	13,799	13,799	13,800	13,801
Civilian labor force	8,774	8,635	8,808	8,698	8,730	8,680	8,709	8,775	8,732
Employed	8,362	8,195	8,395	8,255	8,294	8,223	8,286	8,328	8,287
Unemployed	412	441	413	443	436	437	423	447	445
Unemployment rate	4.7	5.1	4.7	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1	5.1
North Carolina									
Civilian noninstitutional population	4,935	4,991	4,996	4,935	4,975	4,980	4,985	4,991	4,996
Civilian labor force	3,439	3,439	3,471	3,408	3,395	3,399	3,410	3,451	3,438
Employed	3,312	3,306	3,339	3,286	3,274	3,283	3,281	3,312	3,312
Unemployed	128	132	132	122	121	116	129	139	126
Unemployment rate	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.8	4.0	3.7
Ohio									
Civilian noninstitutional population	8,260	8,281	8,283	8,260	8,275	8,276	8,278	8,281	8,283
Civilian labor force	5,505	5,409	5,481	5,445	5,372	5,402	5,417	5,428	5,419
Employed	5,184	5,104	5,179	5,142	5,061	5,107	5,098	5,107	5,135
Unemployed	320	305	301	303	311	295	319	321	284
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.5	5.9	5.9	5.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-13. Employment status of the civilian population for eleven large States—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

State and employment status	Not seasonally adjusted[1]			Seasonally adjusted[2]					
	June 1989	May. 1990	June 1990	June 1989	Feb. 1990	Mar. 1990	Apr. 1990	May. 1990	June 1990
Pennsylvania									
Civilian noninstitutional population	9,365	9,385	9,387	9,365	9,379	9,380	9,382	9,385	9,387
Civilian labor force	5,941	5,889	5,974	5,862	5,966	6,004	5,945	5,941	5,894
Employed	5,673	5,604	5,678	5,620	5,623	5,694	5,604	5,648	5,623
Unemployed	268	285	296	242	343	310	341	293	271
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.8	5.0	4.1	5.7	5.2	5.7	4.9	4.6
Texas									
Civilian noninstitutional population	12,209	12,351	12,365	12,209	12,312	12,323	12,337	12,351	12,365
Civilian labor force	8,486	8,410	8,549	8,393	8,404	8,447	8,495	8,425	8,452
Employed	7,891	7,887	8,010	7,866	7,949	7,977	7,955	7,880	7,979
Unemployed	596	523	539	527	545	470	540	545	473
Unemployment rate	7.0	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	5.6	6.4	6.5	5.6

[1] These are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates used in the administration of Federal fund allocation programs.

[2] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and the seasonally adjusted columns.

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Week of July 16, 1990

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CHARGED WITH RACE DISCRIMINATION

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole has announced today the University of Maryland at College Park (UMCP), one of the nation's 10 largest educational institutions, has been charged with discrimination against minorities who applied for secretarial and clerical positions. The action affects a group of 193 black applicants and 70 Asian applicants who sought positions.

Dole said, "Equal employment and promotional opportunities are fundamental rights. I am personally committed to ensuring Americans' employment rights and the department will take whatever measures are necessary to ensure federal contractors are in compliance with that mandate."

The administrative complaint filed against the University is the result of a compliance review begun in early 1987 by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP). The review disclosed that the alleged discrimination affected a class of minorities who applied for secretarial and clerical positions.

OFCCP Director Cari Dominguez stated that extended conciliation efforts with UMCP had failed, and the department is seeking a hearing before an administrative law judge to recommend sanctions. Such sanctions include the immediate cancellation of the University's present government contracts and debarment from future government contracts. Current data shows that the University has approximately $15.5 million worth of government contracts.

Secretary Dole pointed out that the University will be given a full opportunity to present its defense in the proceedings and that the final decision in the case will be based on all the evidence presented.

OFCCP is part of the department's Employment Standards Administration. The agency is responsible for enforcing laws which require federal contractors to guarantee equal employment opportunity without regard to race, sex, religion, sex, color, national origin, handicap or Vietnam-era veteran status.

# # #

Week of July 16, 1990

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

The first federal agency to promote occupational safety was the Working Conditions Services in 1918, according to "Labor Firsts in America." The agency sought to improve working conditions for defense workers during the war.

# # #

The first federal legislation setting safety and health standards for workers employed in government contract work exceeding $10,000 was the Walsh-Healey Act passed in 1936, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a U.S. Labor Department publication.

# # #

The first federal legislation setting safety and health standards for workers in general in the private sector was the Occupational Safety and Health Act passed in 1970, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a U.S. Labor Department publication. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is run by the U.S. Labor Department.

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